

SEPA Review Opportunities

Type and Point in process	Comment Opportunity	Type of Review and Comment
<p>Prethreshold Consultation (early)</p>	<p>Early opportunity for agencies to review checklist and advise on threshold determination</p> <p>7-14 days usual comment period</p>	<p>Review environmental checklist and any additional material</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify environmental issues to be analyzed - If insufficient information, request from lead agency. - Provide input on significance of environmental issues for agency to make threshold determination
<p>Optional GMA Process ODNS/NOA or ODNS/NOA-M</p>	<p>Likely the only opportunity to comment</p> <p>Agency is giving notice they received an application and preliminarily believes the proposal impacts will be nonsignificant and expects to issue a DNS or MDNS.</p> <p>14-day comment period</p>	<p>Level of review should be same as for DNS</p> <p>Also check to verify if sufficient information is available to review and/or identify impact significance.</p>
<p>Determination of Nonsignificance DNS with a comment period</p>	<p>Last SEPA opportunity to comment</p> <p>Any identified mitigation is not required unless included in a permit or SEPA mitigation is referenced in permit.</p> <p>14-30 day comment period</p>	<p>Review environmental checklist and any additional information. Identify concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - problems with the analysis, - missing/needed information, - concerns about the project, - existing condition, - project impacts, and - possible solutions/mitigation (e.g. BMPs). <p>Explain why your concerns are important</p> <p>Provide input on significance if a DNS appears inappropriate</p>
<p>Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance MDNS</p>	<p>Last SEPA opportunity to comment</p> <p>Any identified mitigation in the MDNS is part of the proposal or will be placed upon the project <u>and</u> is necessary to reduce the impacts from a significant level to a nonsignificant level. Mitigation must be listed as conditions to be met for permit.</p> <p>14-day comment period</p>	<p>Level of review should be same as for DNS</p> <p>The lead agency believes this project has/had the potential to result in significant impacts if the identified mitigation or proposal change was not implemented.</p>

EIS Process:		
Scoping notice (early)	First opportunity to comment Second opportunity will be DEIS 14-30 day comment period	Review notice and additional information; comment on: - proposal description - purpose and need (if identified) - existing conditions - important environmental issues - range of alternatives with reduced environmental consequences
Draft EIS DEIS	Only opportunity to comment on SEPA analysis. 30-45 day comment period	Provide feedback on completeness and accuracy of: - environmental impact analysis of a reasonable range of alternatives and no action alternative - mitigation and its effectiveness - preferred alternative - alternatives to add
Final EIS FEIS	Final review and No formal comment period; 7 day waiting period	Additional comment may be appropriate. - If your comments on the DEIS were inadequately addressed - If there are new discussions, alternatives, impacts, that weren't discussed in the DEIS.
Planned Action (early)	Most likely will be the only time to comment on any projects that would qualify as the described planned action 30-45 day comment period –Draft EIS	Ensure the environmental issues have been addressed with enough detail to be sufficient for project level review: - existing environmental issues for project area. - environmental issues for types of uses that would be allowed. - alternatives and mitigation that would be needed.
Other		
Agency internal review documents (early)	Only time to comment on your agency's SEPA document Prior to formal (external) SEPA review. Application has probably been received. Ecology is developing a proposal.	Provide input to make the document accurate and complete before it is released as a SEPA document Use your expertise to assist with understanding proposal, existing environment, project impacts (including but not limited to meeting regulatory standards), mitigation, threshold determination.
NEPA documents Scoping DEIS(early) NEPA DEIS EA	May be only opportunity to comment The NEPA EA or EIS may be adopted under SEPA without a comment period.	Review as if it is a DEIS Except there may be no significant impacts in an EA. Identify any potential shortcomings for meeting SEPA requirements
Notice of Application (early)	Not a SEPA review	Early opportunity to shape a proposal Identify problems and potential solutions Opportunity to identify significant impacts